

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated August 8, 2007. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments. Also enclosed is a Terminal Disclaimer linking the term and ownership of any patent granted on the present application to that of US 6,820,967.

Amendments

Independent claims 1, 16 and 31 have been amended to further characterize the heater element as capable of forming a gas bubble in the bubble forming liquid with a pulse of actuation energy having a duration less than 0.5 microseconds. This aspect of the invention is described at page 30, lines 17 to 22.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 to 47 stand rejected as defining the same invention as claims 1-47 of US 6,820,967. As discussed above, independent claims 1, 16 and 31 have been amended to define that pulses of actuation energy used by the heater elements have a maximum duration of 0.5 microseconds.

Accordingly, none of claims 1 to 47 define a scope that is co-terminous with any of claims 1 to 47 of '967.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection has been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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